# Persian Basics: Numbers 0-20



Practice reading and writing the numbers 0-20 in Persian. Note that while Persian script is read and written from right to left, the numbers are read and written from left to right. *The transliteration in parenthesis is the spoken pronunciation.*

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ۰ | صفر | sefr | ۰ | ۰ | ۰ | ۰ | ۰ |
| ۱ | یک | yek | ۱ | ۱ | ۱ | ۱ | ۱ |
| ۲ | دو | do | ۲ | ۲ | ۲ | ۲ | ۲ |
| ۳ | سه | seh | ۳ | ۳ | ۳ | ۳ | ۳ |
| ۴ | چهار | châhâr (châr) | ۴ | ۴ | ۴ | ۴ | ۴ |
| ۵ | پنج | panj | ۵ | ۵ | ۵ | ۵ | ۵ |
| ۶ | شش | shesh (shish) | ۶ | ۶ | ۶ | ۶ | ۶ |
| ۷ | هفت | haft | ۷ | ۷ | ۷ | ۷ | ۷ |
| ۸ | هشت | hasht | ۸ | ۸ | ۸ | ۸ | ۸ |
| ۹ | نه | noh | ۹ | ۹ | ۹ | ۹ | ۹ |
| ۱۰ | ده | dah | ۱۰ | ۱۰ | ۱۰ | ۱۰ | ۱۰ |



# Persian Basics: Numbers 1-20

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ۱۱ | یازده | yâzdah | ۱۱ ۱۱ ۱۱ ۱۱ ۱۱ |
| ۱۲ | دوازده | davâzdah | ۱۲ ۱۲ ۱۲ ۱۲ ۱۲ |
| ۱۳ | سیزده | sizdah | ۱۳ ۱۳ ۱۳ ۱۳ ۱۳ |
| ۱۴ | چهارده | châhârdah (chârdah) | ۱۴ ۱۴ ۱۴ ۱۴ ۱۴ |
| ۱۵ | پانزده | pânzdah (punzdah) | ۱۵ ۱۵ ۱۵ ۱۵ ۱۵ |
| ۱۶ | شانزده | shânzdah (shunzdah) | ۱۶ ۱۶ ۱۶ ۱۶ ۱۶ |
| ۱۷ | هفده | hefdah (hivdah) | ۱۷ ۱۷ ۱۷ ۱۷ ۱۷ |
| ۱۸ | هجده | hejdah (hizhdah) | ۱۸ ۱۸ ۱۸ ۱۸ ۱۸ |
| ۱۹ | نوزده | nuzdah | ۱۹ ۱۹ ۱۹ ۱۹ ۱۹ |
| ۲۰ | بیست | bist | ۲۰ ۲۰ ۲۰ ۲۰ ۲۰ |



# Persian Basics: Self introduction

Essential phrases to introduce yourself. *Note that the transliteration in parentheses is the spoken form.*

| | |
|---|---|
| hello/hi | سلام<br>salâm |
| I am __. | من ــــ هستم.<br>Man ______ hastam.<br>(more formal) |
| I am __. | من ــــ ام.<br>Man ______ -am.<br>(more colloquial) |
| What's your name? | اسم شما چیست؟<br>Esm-e shomâ chist? (Esm-e shomâ chi-ye?) |
| Nice to meet you. | خوشوقتم.<br>Khoshvaghtam. |
| Me too. | من هم همینطور.<br>Man ham hamintor. (Manam hamintor.) |
| Likewise. | همچنین<br>Hamchenin.<br>(more formal) |



# Grammatical notes

We introduce ourselves using the verb "to be." Generally, verbs come at the end of a sentence in Persian.

I am Pontia. — من پانته آ هستم.

Man Pontia hastam.

Saying *hastam* is more formal. The -*am* at the end of *hastam* indicates the conjugation for "I." We can also add this ending to our name (or other nouns or adjectives), making it more colloquial. Names/words that end in ا (Alef), ه (He), or و (Vâv) typically take ام- when written colloquially. Otherwise, م- alone can be attached to them as we see in خوشوقتم/*khoshvaghtam.* Take a look at some more examples.

من دیویدم.

Man David-am.

من نیلوفرم.

Man Nilufar-am.

الکساندرا ام.

Aleksandra-am.

آرزو ام

Ârezu-am.

پونه ام.

Pouneh-am.

In the question:

*Esm-e shomâ chist?* — اسم شما چیست؟

*Chist*/چیست is a contraction of *chi*+*ast* / است + چی : "What is."

In spoken Persian, *ast* (is) is always reduced to -*e* which is why we say *chi-e* (or *chi-ye*).



# Persian Basics: How are you?

| | |
|---|---|
| How are you?<br>Lit. "How is your health/state/condition?" | (formal) حال شما چطور است؟<br>(spoken) حال شما چطوره؟<br>Hâl-e shomâ chetor ast? / chetor-e? |
| How are you?<br>(Asking the person who just asked you) | (formal) شما چطورید؟<br>(spoken) شما چطورین؟<br>Shomâ chetorid? / chetorin? |
| How are you? | (informal you) چطوری؟<br>Chetori? |
| How are you?<br>(Asking the person who just asked you) | (informal you) تو چطوری؟<br>To chetori? |
| I'm well/good. | خوبم.<br>khubam |
| I'm well/good, too. | من هم خوبم.<br>Man ham khubam. (Manam khubam.) |



# Persian Basics: How are you?

| | |
|---|---|
| Not bad. | بد نیستم.<br>Bad nistam. |
| Thank you | مرسی.<br>ممنونم.<br>Merci / Mamnunam |
| Lit., "I'll sacrifice myself for you."<br>"I'm good" + "thank you" together in a formal response that shows politeness and respect. | (formal) قربان شما.<br>Ghorbân-e shomâ. |
| Informal "you" version of the above. | (informal written) قربانت.<br>(informal spoken) قربونت.<br>Ghorbânet / Ghorbunet |
| Thank God. | (written) خدا را شکر<br>(spoken) خدا رو شکر<br>Khodâ râ / ro shokr. |



# Grammar notes

A review of the subject-verb endings we've learned so far:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| I am | هستم hastam | مَ –am | من man I |
| I am well | خوبم khubam | | |
| I am not | نیستم nistam | | |
| You are | هستی hasti | ی –i | تو to (informal) you |
| How are you? | چطوری chetori | | |
| How are you? (formal) | چطورید chetorid | ید –id (formal) ین –in (spoken) | شما shomâ (formal) you |
| Are you well? (formal) | خوبین khubin | | |



# Persian Basics: Where are you from?

| | |
|---|---|
| Where are you from? (formal) | اهل کجا هستید؟<br>Ahl-e kojâ hastin? |
| Where are you from? (formal, colloquial) | اهل کجایید؟<br>Ahl-e kojâ-in? |
| Where are you from? (informal) | اهل کجا هستی؟<br>Ahl-e kojâ hasti? |
| Where are you from? (informal, colloquial) | اهل کجایی؟<br>Ahl-e kojâ-i? |
| Where are you from? (informal) | کجایی هستی؟<br>Kojâ-i hasti? |
| I'm from the US. | اهل آمریکا هستم.<br>Ahl-e Âmrikâ hastam. |
| I'm American. | آمریکایی هستم. / آمریکایی ام<br>Âmrikâ-i hastam./ Âmrikâ-i am. |



# Persian Basics: Where are you from?

| | |
|---|---|
| Where do you live?<br>(formal) | کجا زندگی می کنید؟<br>Kojâ zendegi mikonin? |
| Where do you live?<br>(informal) | کجا زندگی می کنی؟<br>Kojâ zendegi mikoni? |
| I live in Tehran. | تهران زندگی می کنم.<br>Tehran zendegi mikonam. |



# Grammar notes

For nationalities, we typically add ی- (-i) to the end of the country name.

| | |
|---|---|
| کانادا ـ کانادایی | ایران ـ ایرانی |
| Canada: Kânâdâ-Kânâdâ-i | Iran-Irani |
| چین ـ چینی | آلمان ـ آلمانی |
| China: Chin-Chini | Germany: Âlmân-Âlmâni |

Persian has many compound verbs like "to live" / زندگی کردن (*zendegi kardan*). The first part gives the action and doesn't change. Only the base is conjugated. In this case, *kardan* is our base. Some base verbs (like *kardan*) are more common, so if you know them, you can easily learn many other verbs. In the simple present tense, we add the prefix *mi* to the root form of the base and then add the ending for the person. This is the conjugation of *kardan* in the 3 forms we have learned so far: I, you (informal, singular), and you (formal, plural).

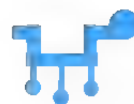
| | |
|---|---|
| می کنم<br>mikonam | من<br>man |
| می کنی<br>mikoni | تو<br>to |
| می کنید<br>mikonid (mikonin) | شما<br>shomâ |

**kardan** کردن

root: kon ـ کن-

Simple present:

ending + کن + می



# Persian Basics: Days of the Week

*Even though it's written شنبه (shanbe), it sounds more like shambe which is why the transliteration is written as such.*

| | |
|---|---|
| Saturday | شنبه<br>shambe |
| Sunday | یک شنبه<br>yek shambe (ye shambe) |
| Monday | دو شنبه<br>do shambe |
| Tuesday | سه شنبه<br>seh shambe |
| Wednesday | چهار شنبه<br>châhâr shambe (châr shambe) |
| Thursday | پنج شنبه<br>panj shambe |
| Friday | جمعه<br>jom'e |



# Persian Basics: Days of the Week

| | |
|---|---|
| day | روز<br>ruz |
| week | هفته<br>hafte |
| days of the week | روزهای هفته<br>ruz hâ-ye hafte |
| even days | روزهای زوج<br>ruz hâ-ye zowj |
| odd days | روزهای فرد<br>ruz hâ-ye fard |
| Thursday night | شب جمعه<br>shab-e jom'e |
| Friday night (or any other night) | جمعه شب<br>jom e shab |



# Cultural notes

Notice that the Persian word for "week" (*hafte*) has the number seven (*haft*) in it.

Saturday is the start of the workweek in Iran. Friday is the official weekend day. Thursday may or may not be off depending on the place.

In Iran, days are referred to as "odd days" and "even days" because they have numbers. "Odd days" are Sunday (*yek shambe*), Tuesday (*seh shambe*), and Thursday (*panj shambe*). "Even days" are Saturday (*shambe*), Monday (*do shambe*), and Wednesday (*châr shambe*).

Shab-e jom'e (the night of Friday) actually means "Thursday night" when people go out for the weekend. Jom'e shab would be Friday night (or any other night).

# Persian Basics: Numbers 21-1,000,000,000



| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ۲۱ | بیست و یک | bist-o yek |
| ۲۲ | بیست و دو | bist-o do |
| ۲۳ | بیست و سه | bist-o seh |
| ۲۴ | بیست و چهار | bist-o chấr |
| ۲۵ | بیست و پنج | bist-o panj |
| ۲۶ | بیست و شش | bist-o shish |
| ۲۷ | بیست و هفت | bist-o haft |
| ۲۸ | بیست و هشت | bist-o hasht |
| ۲۹ | بیست و نه | bist- o noh |
| ۳۰ | سی | si |

# Persian Basics: Numbers 21-1,000,000,000



| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ۴۰ | چهل | chehel (chel) | | | |
| ۵۰ | پنجاه | panjâh | | | |
| ۶۰ | شصت | shast | | | |
| ۷۰ | هفتاد | haftâd | | | |
| ۸۰ | هشتاد | hashtâd | | | |
| ۹۰ | نود | navad | | | |
| ۱۰۰ | صد | sad | ۶۰۰ | ششصد | sheshsad |
| ۲۰۰ | دویست | divist | ۷۰۰ | هفتصد | haftsad |
| ۳۰۰ | سیصد | sisad | ۸۰۰ | هشتصد | hashtsad |
| ۴۰۰ | چهارصد | chârsad | ۹۰۰ | نهصد | nohsad |
| ۵۰۰ | پانصد | pânsad (punsad) | ۱۰۰۰ | هزار | hezâr |
| ۱،۰۰۰،۰۰۰ | میلیون | million | ۱،۰۰۰،۰۰۰،۰۰۰ | میلیارد | milliard |



# Persian Basics: Greetings

| | |
|---|---|
| good morning | صبح بخیر<br>sob bekheyr |
| good afternoon | ظهر بخیر<br>zohr bekheyr |
| good evening | عصر بخیر<br>asr bekheyr |
| good night | شب بخیر<br>shab bekheyr |
| lit. good time (a greeting for any time) | وقت بخیر<br>vaght bekheyr |
| have a nice day | روز خوبی داشته باشید<br>ruz-e khubi dâshte bashin |

# Lesson 10: Budan / Dâshtan



Forms in parentheses indicate the spoken form. است / ast is always reduced to ه- / -e in spoken Persian

## To be: budan بودن

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| هستیم<br>hastim | ما<br>mâ | هستم<br>hastam | من<br>man |
| هستید (هستین)<br>hastid (hastin) | شما<br>shomâ | هستی<br>hasti | تو<br>to |
| هستند (هستن)<br>hastand (hastan) | آنها<br>ânhâ | هست / است<br>hast / ast | او<br>u (oo) |

## To have: dâshtan (dâr-) داشتن (دار-)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| داریم<br>dârim | ما<br>mâ | دارم<br>dâram | من<br>man |
| دارید (دارین)<br>dârid (dârin) | شما<br>shomâ | داری<br>dâri | تو<br>to |
| دارند (دارن)<br>dârand (dâran) | آنها<br>ânhâ | دارد / داره<br>dârad / dâreh | او<br>u (oo) |



# Lesson 11: Family

| | |
|---|---|
| family | خانواده<br>khânevâdeh |
| mother/mom | مادر / مامان<br>mâdar / mâmân |
| father/dad | پدر / بابا<br>pedar/ bâbâ |
| sister | خواهر<br>khâhar |
| brother | برادر<br>barâdar |
| daughter/girl | دختر<br>dokhtar |
| son/boy | پسر<br>pesar |



# Lesson 11: Family

| | |
|---|---|
| grandmother | مادر بزرگ<br>mâdar bozorg |
| grandfather | پدر بزرگ<br>pedar bozorg |
| grandchild | نوه<br>naveh |
| maternal aunt | خاله<br>khâleh |
| maternal uncle | دایی<br>dâii |
| paternal aunt | عمه<br>ammeh |
| paternal uncle | عمو<br>amu |



# Lesson 11: Family

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| cousin | khâleh<br>dâii<br>ammeh<br>amu | خاله<br>دایی<br>عمه<br>عمو | دختر<br>پسر<br>dokhtar<br>pesar |
| niece/nephew | khâhar zâdeh<br>barâdar zâdeh | | خواهر زاده<br>برادر زاده |

## Grammar

### Tâ

When we have a number that indicates "how many" of something, we have to add the plural marker تا (tâ) after the number for all numbers except 1. We also need to bring this after the question چند / *chand* if we want to ask how many of something, چند تا / chand tâ.

Seh tâ pesar dâram.
(I have three sons.)

سه تا پسر دارم.

Ye khâhar o do tâ barâdar dâreh.
(S/he has one sister and two brothers.)

یک خواهر و دو تا برادر دارد.

Chand tâ amu dâri?
(How many uncles do you have?)

چند تا عمو داری؟



# Lesson 11: Family

## Yes/No questions

To ask Yes/No questions, simply change your intonation to go up a bit.

To say yes, we can say بله / *baleh* or آره / *âre*. *Baleh* is more formal/polite. It's similar to the difference between 'yes" and "yah."

To say no, we can say نه / *na* or خیر / *kheyr* (or *na kheyr*). *Na* is more common. [*Na*] *Kheyr* is more formal.

## Negative verbs

To negate a verb, simply add نَ or نِ / *na* or *ne* to the beginning. For the verb داشتن / dâshtan it's *na:*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| nadârim | نداریم | nadâram | ندارم |
| nadârin | ندارید | nadâri | نداری |
| nadâran | ندارند | nadâreh | ندارد |

For the verb بودن / budan:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| nistim | نیستیم | nistam | نیستم |
| nistid | نیستید | nisti | نیستی |
| nistan | نیستند | nist | نیست |

For other verbs that have the prefix می / *mi*, it becomes نمی / *nemi*. Example: ایران زندگی نمی کنم / *Iran zendegi nemikonam*. (I don't live in Iran.)



# Lesson 11: Family

## Possessives 1

One way to form possessives in Persian is to add a diacritic under the noun and then add the subject pronoun. For example:

| | |
|---|---|
| My sister<br>Lit: sister of me | خواهرِ من<br>khâhar-e man |
| Your name<br>Lit: name of you | اسمِ تو<br>esm-e to |
| Your health<br>Lit: health of you | حالِ شما<br>hâl-e shomâ |
| My sister's name is Negin.<br>Lit: The name of the sister of me is Negin. | اسمِ خواهرِ من نگین است.<br>Esm-e khâhar-e man Negin-e. |

# Persian Basics: Months/Seasons



| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| seasons | fasl hâ | فصل ها | mâh hâ | ماه ها |
| spring | bahâr | بهار | fardardvin | فروردی |
| summer | tabestân<br>tabestun | تابستان | ordibehesht | اردیبهشت |
| fall | pâiz | پاییز | khordâd | خرداد |
| winter | zemestân<br>zemestun | زمستان | tir | تیر |
| | | | mordâd | مرداد |
| | | | shahrivar | شهریور |
| | | | mehr | مهر |
| | | | âbân | آبان |
| | | | âzar | آذر |
| | | | dey | دی |
| | | | bahman | بهمن |
| | | | esfand | اسفند |

# Persian Basics: Weather



| | | |
|---|---|---|
| weather | havâ | هوا |
| sun / sunny | âftâb / âftâbi | آفتاب / آفتابی |
| cloud / cloudy | abr /abri | ابر / ابری |
| rain / rainy | bârun / bâruni | باران / بارانی |
| snow / snow | barf / barfi | برف / برفی |
| storm / stormy | tufân/ tufâni | طوفان[1] / طوفانی |
| partly cloudy | nime abri | نیمه ابری |
| fog / foggy | meh / mehâlud | مه / مه آلود |
| wind / breeze | bâd /nasim | باد / نسیم |
| hail | tagarg | تگرگ |
| thunder and lightning | rad o bargh | رعد و برق |
| temperature | damâ-ye havâ | دمای هوا |
| hot | garm | گرم |

# Persian Basics: Weather



| | | |
|---|---|---|
| cold | sard | سرد |
| cool | khonak | خنک |
| How's the weather? | Havâ chetore? | هوا چطوره؟ |
| It's 23 degrees Celsius. | Bist o seh daraje sentigrâd-e. | ۲۳ درجه سانتیگراد است. |
| today | emruz | امروز |
| tomorrow | fardâ | فردا |
| the day after tomorrow | pas fardâ | پس فردا |
| I support you/ I got your back. | Havât-o dâram. | هوایت[2] را دارم. |
| The [rainy] weather is perfect for a romantic stroll. | Havâ do nafaras. | هوا دو نفره است. |

1. Although the word طوفان also has the ـان (-ân) ending, the pronunciation does **not** change to "-un."

2. The word for "fan" or "supporter" is **هوادار** / *havâdâr,* literally 'having one's weather.'

# Persian Basics: Weather



## Grammar

Let's look at some verbs that we can use in relation to the weather. For rain or snow, we can use the verb باریدن / *bâridan* (to rain).

It's snowing. برف می بارد. *Barf mibâre.*

It's raining. باران می بارد. *Barun mibâre.*

For wind, breeze, thunder and lightning, or hail, we can use the verb آمدن / *âmadan* (to come). This verb is also commonly used with rain or snow in conversation.

آمدن

Root: آی-

Let's look at how to conjugate this verb in the present tense.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| می آییم<br>miyâim | ما<br>mâ | می آیم<br>miyâm | من<br>man |
| می آیید<br>miyâin | شما<br>shomâ | می آیی<br>miyâ-i | تو<br>to |
| می آیند<br>miyân | آنها<br>ânhâ | می آید<br>miyâd | او<br>u (oo) |



The spoken form of this verb is quite different from the written form. The written form is in Persian; however, the transliteration is given in the more practical, spoken form.



# Lesson 14: Possessives Part 2

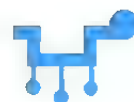
## Possessives 2

The more common way to form the possessive in spoken Persian is to add the following endings to the word. Here is the example word خواهر / *khâhar* (sister) with the respective endings.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| خواهرمان<br>khâharemun | ما<br>mâ | خواهرم<br>khâharam | من<br>man |
| خواهرتان<br>khâharetun | شما<br>shomâ | خواهرت<br>khâharet | تو<br>to |
| خواهرشان<br>khâhareshun | آنها<br>ânhâ | خواهرش<br>khâharesh | او<br>u (oo) |

The other way to form the possessive that we learned in Lesson 11 is more commonly used for emphasis.

# Persian Basics: Telling Time



| | | |
|---|---|---|
| time, hour, watch, clock | sâ'at | ساعت |
| minute | daghighe | دقیقه |
| second | sâniye | ثانیه |
| quarter | rob | ربع |
| half | nim | نیم |
| and | o / va | و |
| to | beh | به |
| morning | sobh | صبح |
| noon | zohr | ظهر |
| afternoon | asr | بعد از ظهر |
| evening | asr | عصر |

# Persian Basics: Telling Time



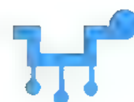
| | | |
|---|---|---|
| night | shab | شب |
| middle of the night, midnight | nesf-e shab | نصف شب |
| What time is it? | Sâ'at chand-e? | ساعت چند است / چنده؟ |
| It's 1:00. | Sâ'at yek-e. | ساعت یک است / یکه. |
| It's 2:15. | Sâ'at do o rob-e. | ساعت دو و ربعه. |
| It's 10:20. | Sâ'at dah o bist daghighas. | ساعت ده و بیست دقیقه است. |
| It's 5:23. | Sâ'at panj o bist o seh daghighas. | ساعت پنج و بیست و سه دقیقه است. |

# Persian Basics: Telling Time



| | | |
|---|---|---|
| It's 3:30. | Sâ'at seh o nim-e. | ساعت سه و نیمه. |
| It's a quarter to four. | Ye rob be chấr-e. | یک ربع به چهاره. |
| It's 10 minutes to 7. | Dah daghighe beh haft-e. | ده دقیقه به هفته. |
| What time is your class? | Kelâset sâ'at chand-e? | کلاست ساعت چنده؟ |
| I have class at 6. | Sâ'at shish kelâs dâram. | ساعت ۶ کلاس دارم. |
| What time is our flight? | Parvâz-emun sâ'at chande? | پروازمان ساعت چنده؟ |
| Lit, "the 90th minute; at the last minute | daghighe navad | دقیقه نود |

# Persian Basics: Question Words



| | | |
|---|---|---|
| who | ki | کی |
| when | kay | کی |
| where | kojâ | کجا |
| what | chi | چی |
| why | cherâ | چرا |
| how | chetor | چطور[1] |
| how much | chand | چند |
| how many | chand tâ | چند تا |

weather.

# Persian Basics: Question Words



Let's look at some simple sample sentences with these question words.

## کی

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Who are you? | Shomâ ki hastin? | شما کی هستید؟ |
| Who is that? | Un ki-ye? | اون کیه؟ |
| Who has a brother? | Ki barâdar dâre? | کی برادر داره؟ |

1

## کی

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| When do you have time? | Key vaght dâri? | کی وقت داری؟ |
| When is your class? | Kelâset key-e? | کلاست کیه؟ |
| When are you coming? | Key miyâi? | کی می آیی؟ |

## کجا

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Where do you live? | Kojâ zendegi mikoni? | کجا زندگی می کنی؟ |
| Where is the hotel? | Hotel kojâst? | هتل کجاست؟ |
| Where is the bathroom? | Servis behdâshti / dastshui kojâst? | سرویس بهداشتی / دستشویی کجاست؟ |

# Persian Basics: Question Words



## چی

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| What is your name? | Esmet chi-ye? | اسمت چیه؟ |
| What does it mean? | Yani chi? | یعنی چی؟ |
| What is ___ in Persian? | ___ be fârsi chi mishe? | ــ به فارسی چی میشه؟ |

## چرا

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Why are you learning Persian? | Cherâ fârsi yâd migiri? | چرا فارسی یاد می گیری؟ |
| Why did you go? | Cherâ rafti? | چرا رفتی؟ |
| Why are you vegetarian? | Cherâ vegeterian hasti? | چرا وجترین هستی؟ |

## چطور

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| How's the weather? | Havâ chetor-e? | هوا چطوره؟ |
| How are you? | Hâlet chetor-e? | حالت چطوره؟ |
| How are you? (informal) | Chetori? | چطوری؟ |

# Persian Basics: Question Words



| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | چند | |
| What time is it? | Sâ'at chand-e? | ساعت چنده؟ |
| How much is it? | Chand-e? | چنده؟ |
| How much is the entrance ticket? | Belit vorudi chand-e? | بلیط ورودی چنده؟ |
| | چند تا | |
| How many sisters do you have? | Chand tâ khâhar dâri? | چندتا خواهر داری؟ |
| How many tickets do you want? | Chand tâ belit mikhâin? | چندتا بلیط می خواهید؟ |

# Persian Basics: Colors



| | | |
|---|---|---|
| color / colors | rang / rang-hâ | رنگ / رنگ ها |
| red | ghermez | قرمز |
| yellow | zard | زرد |
| green | sabz | سبز |
| purple | banafsh | بنفش |
| white | sefid | سفید |
| black | siyâh / meshki | سیاه / مشکی |
| water / blue | âb / âbi | آب / آبی |
| sour orange / orange | nârenj / nârenji | نارنج / نارنجی |
| coffee / brown | ghahve / ghahve-yi | قهوه / قهوه ای |
| ashes / gray | khâkestar / khâkestari | خاکستر / خاکستری |
| face / pink | surat / surati | صورت / صورتی |
| kohl / navy blue | sormeh / sormeh-yi | سرمه / سرمه ای |

# Persian Basics: Colors



| | | |
|---|---|---|
| gold (metal) / color) | talâ / talâ-yi | طلا / طلایی |
| silver (metal) / color) | noghre / noghre yi | نقره / نقره ای |

# Persian Basics: Colors



## Grammatical note:

In English, adjectives come before the noun, i.e., a green tree. In Persian, however, adjectives come after the noun, i.e.,

derakht-e sabz    درختِ سبز
(literally, a tree green)

The noun and adjective are connected using the *zir* diacritic (in the Lesson 1 Alphabet PDF if you need a refresher). *Zir* is a small mark that goes under a letter to add an *e* sound (like the "e" in "red"). I've written it in the example above so you can see how it's connected, but remember that these diacritics are typically omitted in writing.

---

## Sentence examples:

Daftaram ghermez-e.    دفترم قرمز است.

My notebook is red.

---

Khorshid zard-e.    خورشید زرد است.

The sun is yellow.

---

Livânam sabz-e.    لیوانم سبز است.

My glass is green.

---

# Persian Basics: Colors



| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Ye dâman-e banafsh dâram. | I have a purple skirt. | یک دامن بنفش دارم. |
| Laptop-am sefid-e. | My laptop is white. | لپ تاپم سفید است. |
| Shalvâr-e meshkim kojâst? | Where are my black pants. | شلوار مشکیم کجاست؟ |
| Ketâbam âbi-ye | My book is blue. | کتابم آبی است. |
| Kif-e nârenji dâri? | Do you have an orange purse? | کیف نارنجی داری؟ |
| Un sandali ghahve-yi-e. | That chair is brown. | آن صندلی قهوه ای است. |
| Jâkat-e khâkestari dâreh. | S/he has a gray jacket. | ژاکت خاکستری دارد. |

# Persian Basics: Colors



| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Kafsh-e surati nadâram. | I don't have pink shoes. | کفش صورتی ندارم. |
| Rang-e talâ-yi ghashang-e. | The gold color is beautiful. | رنگ طلایی قشنگ است. |
| Rang-e mâshinam noghre-yi-e. | The color of my car is silver. | رنگ ماشینم نقره ای است. |

## Cultural note:

In Iran, soft drinks (نوشابه / *nushâbeh*) are commonly called by color. For example, the Coke/Pepsi variety is *siâh/meshki* (black), the Sprite variety is *sefid* (white), and the orange Fanta variety is *zard* (yellow).

It's perfectly fine to call them by their names, as many do, but it's very common to hear someone order نوشابه زرد (*nushâbeh zard*), a yellow drink, or simply دو تا سیاه، یک سفید (*do tâ siyâh, ye sefid*), 2 blacks and a white, for example.

# Persian Basics: Daily Routine



| | | |
|---|---|---|
| to get up | pâ shodan | پا شدن |
| to brush your teeth | mesvâk zadan | مسواک زدن |
| to shower | dush gereftan | دوش گرفتن |
| to go to work/school/ university/home | sar-e kâr / madrese / dâneshgâh / khune raftan | سر کار / مدرسه / دانشگاه / خانه رفتن |
| to eat breakfast / lunch/dinner | sobune / nâhâr / shâm khordan | صبحانه / ناهار / شام خوردن |
| to make | dorost kardan | درست کردن |
| to watch | tamâshâ kardan | تماشا کردن |
| to sleep | khâbidan | خوابیدن |



# Grammar:

## Verb Conjugation, Present

Persian has many compound verbs which are composed of 2 parts: the first part indicates the action and doesn't change. The second part is the main verb that is conjugated. We saw an example of this with the verb *zendegi kardan* زندگی کردن (to live) in Lesson 3. Only the base verb *kardan* کردن is conjugated.

Some base verbs are more common than others, so as long as you know these verbs, you can easily learn many others. Today, we look at 5 other common base verbs.

To form the present, remember that we need 3 parts:
1) the prefix *mi-* می
2) the root of the verb
3) the ending, according to the person

In the pages that follow, we will conjugate only the 5 base verbs that are in this lesson. You can keep this as a reference for the present tense conjugation of these and other verbs you learn.

Remember that to form the negative of these verbs, simply change the prefix to *nemi-* نمی.

to become (shodan) شدن

root: shav*– شو*–

*The root of *shodan* is *shav* in formal/written Persian. In spoken Persian, it is simply *sh*–. The transliterations in the chart below are written in the spoken form since it is more practical. For example, *Man mishavam* (formal Persian) is *Man misham* (spoken Persian). (Negative example: نمی شوم / *nemisham*)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| می شویم<br>mishim | ما<br>mâ<br>we | می شوم<br>misham | من<br>man<br>I |
| می شوید<br>(می شوین)<br>mishin | شما<br>shomâ<br>you | می شوی<br>mishi | تو<br>to<br>you |
| می شوند<br>(می شون)<br>mishan | آنها<br>ânhâ<br>they | می شود<br>mishe | او<br>u (oo)<br>he/she/it |

Other verbs with the base *shodan*:

to finish / *tamum shodan* / تمام شدن
to get to know / *âshnâ shodan* / آشنا شدن
to wake up / *bidâr shodan* / بیدار شدن



to hit (zadan) زدن

root: zan- زن-

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| می زنیم<br>mizanim | ما<br>mâ<br>we | می زنم<br>mizanam | من<br>man<br>I |
| می زنید (می زنین)<br>mizanin | شما<br>shomâ<br>you | می زنی<br>mizani | تو<br>to<br>you |
| می زنند (می زنن)<br>mizanan | آنها<br>ânhâ<br>they | می زند<br>mizane | او<br>u (oo)<br>he/she/it |

Other verbs with the base *zadan*:

to talk / *harf zadan* / حرف زدن
to take a nap / *chort zadan* / چرت زدن
to telephone (or to rust) / *zang zadan* / زنگ زدن

# Persian Basics: Daily Routine



to get (gereftan) گرفتن

root: gir- گیر-

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| می گیریم<br>migirim | ما<br>mâ<br>we | می گیرم<br>migiram | من<br>man<br>I |
| می گیرید(می گیرین)<br>migirin | شما<br>shomâ<br>you | می گیری<br>migiri | تو<br>to<br>you |
| می گیرند (می گیرن)<br>migiran | آنها<br>ânhâ<br>they | می گیرد<br>migire | او<br>u (oo)<br>he/she/it |

Other verbs with the base *gereftan*:

to decide / *tasmim gereftan* / تصمیم گرفتن

to borrow / *gharz gereftan* / قرض گرفتن

to learn / *yâd gereftan* / یاد گرفتن

# Persian Basics: Daily Routine



to eat/hit/match (khordan) خوردن

root: khor- خور-

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| می خوریم<br>mikhorim | ما<br>mâ<br>we | می خورم<br>mikhoram | من<br>man<br>I |
| می خورید<br>(می خورین)<br>mikhorin | شما<br>shomâ<br>you | می خوری<br>mikhori | تو<br>to<br>you |
| می خورند<br>(می خورن)<br>mikhoran | آنها<br>ânhâ<br>they | می خورد<br>mikhore | او<br>u (oo)<br>he/she/it |

Other verbs with the base *khordan*:

*zamin khordan* / زمین خوردن
to fall (literally "to eat [hit] the ground")

*sarmâ khordan* / سرما خوردن
to catch a cold (literally "to eat the cold")

*havâ khordan* / هوا خوردن
to get some fresh air (literally "to eat air")

# Persian Basics: Daily Routine



to go (raftan) رفتن

root: rav*– رو*–

*The root of *raftan* is *rav* in formal/written Persian. In spoken Persian, it is simply *r*–. The transliterations in the chart below are written in the spoken form since it is more practical. For example, *Man miravam* (formal Persian) is *Man miram* in spoken Persian.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| می رویم<br>mirim | ما<br>mâ<br>we | می روم<br>miram | من<br>man<br>I |
| می روید<br>(می روین)<br>mirin | شما<br>shomâ<br>you | می روی<br>miri | تو<br>to<br>you |
| می روند<br>(می رون)<br>miran | آنها<br>ânhâ<br>they | می رود<br>mire | او<br>u (oo)<br>he/she/it |

Other verbs with the base *raftan*:

to walk / *râh raftan* / راه رفتن

to escape / *dar raftan* / در رفتن

# Persian Basics: Daily Routine



to do (kardan) کردن

root: kon- کن-

This is one of the most common base verbs in Persian.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| می کنیم<br>mikonim | ما<br>mâ<br>we | می کنم<br>mikonam | من<br>man<br>I |
| می کنید<br>(می روین)<br>mikonin | شما<br>shomâ<br>you | می کنی<br>mikoni | تو<br>to<br>you |
| می کنند<br>(می رون)<br>mikonan | آنها<br>ânhâ<br>they | می کند<br>mikone | او<br>u (oo)<br>he/she/it |

Other verbs with the base *kardan*:

to play / *bâzi kardan* / بازی کردن

to think / *fekr kardan* / فکر کردن

to talk / *sohbat kardan* / صحبت کردن

# Persian Basics: Daily Routine



to sleep (khâbidan) خوابیدن

root: khâb*- خواب*ـ

*In Persian, some words that have the خوا pattern, as in خوابیدن (*khâbidan*– to sleep) or خواهر (*khâhar*– sister), have a silent و (vâv).

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| می خوابیم<br>mikhâbim | ما<br>mâ<br>we | می خوابم<br>mikhâbam | من<br>man<br>I |
| می خوابید<br>(می خوابین)<br>mikhâbin | شما<br>shomâ<br>you | می خوابی<br>mikhâbi | تو<br>to<br>you |
| می خوابند<br>(می خوابن)<br>mikhâban | آنها<br>ânhâ<br>they | می خوابد<br>mikhâbe | او<br>u (oo)<br>he/she/it |

# Persian Basics: Daily Routine



کار های روزمره

Kârhây-e ruzmarre

صبح ها ساعت ۶:۳۰ پا می شوم.

Sobh hâ sâat-e shish o nim (6:30) pâ misham.

اول مسواک می زنم و صبحانه می خورم. بعد دوش میگیرم.

Avval mesvâk mizanam o sobune mikhoram. Ba'ad dush migiram.

ساعت ۸:۴۵ می روم سر کار.

Sâat-e ye rob be noh (8:45) miram sar-e kâr.

ساعت ۱ ناهار میخورم.

Sâat-e yek (1) nâhâr mikhoram.

ساعت ۵:۳۰ می روم خانه و شام درست می کنم. شام میخورم و تلویزیون تماشا می کنم.

Sâat-e panj o nim (5:30) miram khuneh o shâm dorost mikonam. Shâm mikhoram o televiziyon tamâshâ mikonam.

ساعت ۱۱ می خوابم.

Sâat-e yâzdah (11) mikhâbam.

Daily Routine

In the mornings, I get up at 6:30.

First, I brush my teeth and have breakfast. Then I take a shower.

At 8:45, I go to work.

At 1 o'clock, I have lunch.

At 5:30, I go home and make dinner. I eat dinner and watch TV.

At 11, I sleep.